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MONTANA STUDENTS WIN AT INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

MISSOULA —

Ten Montana students raked in awards at the 52nd INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair, held May 6-12 in San Jose, Calif.

ISEF is the pinnacle event in a yearlong process of local, state and national science fairs. Regional science fairs were held earlier this year in Billings, Butte and Great Falls, followed by the statewide Montana Science Fair at The University of Montana–Missoula. The Montana fairs sponsored trips for the top 20 individual and team Grand Award winners to attend ISEF.

The Montana winners' exhibits were among more than 1,000 exhibits from 44 countries. Their projects spanned 14 disciplinary categories. The winners are:

■ Alexandra Antonioli, 16, of **Butte** High School. Her project, "An Evaluation of Modified *C. Reinhardtii* to Sequester Metals," won the \$500 Environmental Protection Agency Fourth Grand Award and a \$50 Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration Inc. Honorable Mention Award.

■ Zachary Benson, 17, of **Colstrip** High School. His project, "Potential of Natural Sediments to Remove Metal Ions From Waters," earned the \$50 Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration Inc. Honorable Mention Award.

■ Daniel Cox, 16, and Marshall Overcast, 18, of North Toole County High School in **Sunburst**. Their team project, "Effects of Allelochemicals Produced by Kochia Scoparia on Selected Crops Grown in North Toole County, Mont.," won the \$3,000 Science News First Grand Team Award and the \$1,000 Weed Science Society of America First Grand Award.

■ Sonya Iverson, 17, of North Toole County High School in **Sunburst**. Her project, "Drosophila Susceptibility When Exposed to an Insecticide During Different Phases of the Circadian Rhythm," took home the \$1,000 Environmental Protection Agency Third Grand Award.

■ Coralynn Jones, 17, and Nora Hanson, 16, of **Stevensville** High School. Their project, "Cultivars or Accessions: Comparative Study on the Ability of Certain Grass Species to Occupy Mining Waste Sites," won the \$100 Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration Inc. Third Grand Award.

■ Jessica Kaae, 16, of Charles M. Russell High School in **Great Falls**. Her project, "Cellular Stimulation on Selected Leukocytes Treated With Isolates: Phase III," won the \$500 Merck Research Laboratories Fourth Grand Award.

■ Krista Mougey, 17, of **Colstrip** High School. Her project, "Osprey (Pandion Haliaetus): Phase II," captured a plaque and cash award from the American Veterinary Medical Association.

■ Shannon Sorenson, 17, of Big Sky High School in **Missoula**. Her project, "Ascorbic

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Acid Increases the Survival Rate of an Irradiated UV-sensitive Yeast Strain of *Saccharomyces Cerevisiae*," won the \$1,500 U.S. Air Force Second Grand Award.

The UM Department of Computer Science administers the Montana Science Fair, which is co-sponsored by the UM Foundation and the Missoula Exchange Club.

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